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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/975,456	10/11/2001	Michel Lazdunski	1478-R-00	9176

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EXAMINER

PRIEBE, SCOTT DAVID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1632

DATE MAILED: 12/06/2002

12

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/975,456

Applicant
Lazdunski et al.

Examiner
Scott D. Priebe, Ph.D.

Art Unit
1632



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims 1-19 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 1632

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restriction

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-3, 11-13, drawn to a group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 435, subclass 198.
- II. Claims 4, 5, 7-13, drawn to nucleic acid encoding a group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 536, subclass 23.5.
- III. Claim 6, drawn to an antibody that binds to a group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 530, subclass 387.9.
- IV. Claim 14, drawn to a screening assay for inhibitors of a group IIF sPLA2 protein using a recombinant cell expressing a group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 435, subclass 29.
- V. Claim 15, drawn to a screening assay for ligands of a group IIF sPLA2 protein using isolated group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 435, subclass 7.1.
- VI. Claim 16, drawn to a screening assay for biologically active compounds using a cell and isolated group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 435, subclass 4.
- VII. Claim 17, drawn to an inhibitor of a group IIF sPLA2 protein, cannot be classified, inhibitor unknown.

Art Unit: 1632

- VIII. Claim 18, drawn to treatment of viral or bacterial infection with a group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- IX. Claim 18, drawn to treatment of viral or bacterial infection with nucleic acid encoding a group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 514, subclass 44.
- X. Claim 19, drawn to treatment of cancer with a group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 514, subclass 2.
- XI. Claim 19, drawn to treatment of cancer with a nucleic acid encoding a group IIF sPLA2 protein, classified in class 514, subclass 44.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I- III and VII are unrelated to each other. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions are directed to biochemically and structurally different compounds which have different modes of operation, different functions and effects and are not disclosed as capable of use together.

Inventions IV, V, VI, and VIII-XI are unrelated to each other. Inventions are unrelated if it can be shown that they are not disclosed as capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01). In the instant case the different inventions each of the methods have different modes of operation and purposes and use different products. Inventions V, VI, VIII and X use protein, while

Art Unit: 1632

inventions IV, IX and XI use nucleic acids. The screening assays of groups IV-VI are directed to identifying different compounds. The subjects of the treatments of groups VIII and IX differ from those of groups X and XI. None of the methods is disclosed as capable of use together.

Inventions I and inventions V, VI, VIII and X are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the protein of group I can be used in any of the methods of inventions V, VI, VIII and X, as well as to make the antibodies of group III. None of the products of groups II, III, and VII are used in these methods.

Inventions II and inventions IV, IX and XI are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case the nucleic acid of group II can be used in any of the methods of groups IV, IX and XI, as well as a detection assay to identify nucleic acid in a biological sample or for identifying homologous sequences. The products of groups I, III and VII are not used in these methods.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, and the search required for

Art Unit: 1632

each group is not required for the other groups, and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(I).

Certain papers related to this application may be submitted to Art Unit 1632 by facsimile transmission. The FAX numbers are (703) 308-4242 or (703) 305-3014 for any type of communication. In addition, FAX numbers for a computer server system using RightFAX are also available for communications before final rejection, (703) 872-9306, and for communications after final rejection, (703) 872-9307, which will generate a return receipt. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notices published in the Official Gazette, 1156 OG 61 (November 16, 1993) and 1157 OG 94 (December 28, 1993) (see 37 CFR 1.6(d)). NOTE: If applicant *does* submit a paper by FAX, the original copy should be retained by applicant or applicant's representative. NO DUPLICATE COPIES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED, so as to avoid the processing of duplicate papers in the Office.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Scott D. Priebe whose telephone number is (703) 308-7310. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Reynolds, can be reached on (703) 305-4051.

Any inquiry concerning administrative, procedural or formal matters relating to this application should be directed to Patent Analyst Patsy Zimmerman whose telephone number is (703) 308-8338. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Scott D. Priebe

SCOTT D. PRIEBE, PH.D
PRIMARY EXAMINER